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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/666,781	09/22/2003	Chang-Wen Tsaor	BP3027-S11-P61	9010

7590 08/22/2005
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EXAMINER

LAVINDER, JACK W

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3677

DATE MAILED: 08/22/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/666,781	Applicant(s) TSAUR, CHANG-WEN	
	Examiner Jack W. Lavinder	Art Unit 3677	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 6/7/05.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 2,4,6-8 and 10 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 2,4,6-8 and 10 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

1. Claim 2 is objected to because of the following informalities: in line 16, the claim states the cambered concave wall (33) extends from the end stop (2) to the connecting plate (31). This is not correct. The concave wall actually forms a sidewall of the connecting plate. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

2. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

3. Claims 6 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

The limitation directed to a downward protruding stop block (right or left) is matched to a recess at a lateral side of the head of the teeth strip is indefinite. What is the recess at the lateral side of the head of the teeth strip?

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 2, 4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Morin, 2423202 in view of Wang, 6070306.

Regarding claim 2, Morin discloses the claimed end stops of a zipper structure, wherein the right stopper includes an end stop (26, 26'), an inner stopper (20), a connecting plate (18) and the left stopper (16) has a protruded stop block (outer circumference of spherical stopper 16).

Morin fails to disclose an inner stopper with a cambered concave wall with a protruded upper cambered convex corner and an elastic fixing strip.

Wang discloses a right stopper (11 and first tooth 21) without a connecting plate, but includes an elastic fixing strip and a cambered concave wall with a protruded upper cambered convex corner (113, 111). The cambered wall, as stated in col. 2, lines 29-37 of Wang, curves smoothly inwards, to allow the slide to easily be inserted through the gap into engagement with the zipper tape. This design enables the inside partition wall of the slide to be disposed close to the teeth and prevents the slide from being jammed in the first tooth when pulled downwards from the upper limit position.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art to modify Morin's end stop to include the elastic fixing strip with the cambered wall to allow for easy insertion of the slide onto the zipper strip.

Regarding claim 4, Morin discloses a cambered guide surface extending from an inner side of the end stop to an outer side of the end stop until the cambered guide surface is adjacent to the fixing strip (see 26 in figure 8). Morin discloses a top of the inner stopper with an inclined guide surface (32).

6. Claims 2, 7 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Morin, in view of Wang, 6715187.

Regarding claims 2, 7, 8 Morin discloses the claimed end stops of a zipper structure, wherein the right stopper includes an end stop (26, 26'), an inner stopper (20), a connecting plate (18) and the left stopper (16) has a protruded stop block (outer circumference of spherical stopper 16).

Morin fails to disclose an inner stopper with a cambered concave wall with a protruded upper cambered convex corner and an elastic fixing strip.

Wang discloses a right stopper (11 and first tooth 21) without a connecting plate, but includes an elastic fixing strip and a cambered concave wall with a protruded upper cambered convex corner (113, 111). The cambered wall, as stated in col. 3, lines 15-35 of Wang, curves smoothly inwards, to allow the slide to easily be inserted through the gap into engagement with the zipper tape. This design enables the inside partition wall of the slide to be disposed close to the teeth and prevents the slide from being jammed in the first tooth when pulled downwards from the upper limit position.

Wang also discloses a second left stopper (1') having a cambered concave wall (figure 2, the wall that extends from 111' to 112') with an upper cambered convex corner and a lower cambered convex corner.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art to modify Morin's end stop to include the elastic fixing strip with the cambered wall to allow for easy insertion of the slide onto the zipper strip.

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Regarding claim 8, the left stopper has at least three points that contact the y-shaped guide groove in the slider.

Response to Arguments

7. Applicant's arguments with respect to the claims have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

8. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).


A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jack W. Lavinder whose telephone number is 571-272-7119. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Friday, 9-4:00pm.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Judy Swann can be reached on 571-272-7075. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Jack W. Lavinder
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3677

8/16/05